

A

# REVIEW

OF THE

# STATE

OF THE

# ENGLISH NATION.

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Saturday, September 21. 1706.

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I Am prompted by the Subject of the last Paper, to examine the Probability of the Words spoken by the rash Gentleman mention'd there, *Viz. The French King must now come down, and Glorious Times must ensue.*

I know, some People do not love I should give my Essay at probable Consequences; but I venture once more their Displeasure; I have not been so much mistaken in my Guesses, as to make my Attempt ridiculous.

I have noted, that no Nation in the World ever lost three SUCH Battles, and stood after it; No King or Emperor ever shou'd his Face in the Field after three SUCH Defeats; two Battles overthrew *Darius*, one lost Expedition crush'd *Xerxes*,

one Battle overthrew *Bajazet*, and had *Tamerlain* liv'd, had transfer'd the *Turkish* Empire to him.

From this I infer, if you will push on the War, and resolve to make no Peace with *France*, you must crush him, he must sink under your Hands; it is impossible he should stand against a Force so superiour to him, so flush'd with Victory, and so united in Success; for Success unites People that differ, in Hopes of answering all their Ends, in the joint Pursuit of what is before them.

If therefore, thus strengthen'd by united Force, thus heartned by a Series of Conquests, and the Enemy thus broken by irreparable Losses, the Confederates pursue the War, as the *Romans* that of *Carthage*, with Resolutions to give them no Peace, they

they must fall; *Delenda est Gallia*, is as naturally wrote upon them as a State, as Destruction is naturally the Consequence of Conquest—I say, *they must*, that is, human Consequences being the proper Subject of our Discourse, *they must* for any thing they can do to prevent it; nothing but new Miracles can save them, nothing but Swedish or Hungarian Eruptions are in view to save them; and I hope, these Powers will consider it, before they suffer their Successes to unravel all this Clue of Glory, and fight the Cause of God against the Cause of God; of which I shall speak by it self, and clear up the Sense of this Paper from all the calumniating Reflections of petulant and quarrelsome Criticks on that Head.

'Tis then in the Breast of the Confederates to terminate this War as they please, and this brings me to the first Argument, what shall this War end in? — A PEACE, has ever been my Word, as what all our Declarations, Speeches, Addresses, and Pretensions are full of; if I am mistaken, I am led into it by the universal Voice of all the Government concern'd in this War, Peace must be the End of it at last — There every Body will agree with me — Whether a *Delenda* shall be fix'd upon the French King, either on his Person, or on his Government, or on his Family, I have nothing to do to determine — But this is my Conclusion.

You seem to have so absolute a Hand, so strong a Rein over him, as to his Power; that unless you give him Peace, he must sink, and if you think fit to treat with him on Terms of Peace, you may shake this Rod of War over his Head, till he grants every Demand that is made upon him; either by your selves, or the meanest Ally in Europe; you may make him quit every Enterprize, withdraw every League, abandon every Ally, dismiss every Refugee, you may bring him to deliver up into your Hands the Destroyers of Peace, and entirely to crush the insolent Pretenders to your Succession: In short, every thing you ask of him, he must comply

with, and you have no more to do, but send him the Conditions.

If the Treaty shall be, as I should rejoyce to see, and as I have hinted already, not with him as King, but with him and the States as a Government, or as a Constitution; you may at once restore the Protestant Churches, re-establish the French as a free Nation, and set Liberty upon the right Basis again in the World.

Some have branded the French Protestants with such a mean Sense of Liberty, that they are hardly capable Subjects of it, and I confess, they have in some Cases given too just Cause for Reflections on that Head; but this I will venture to say, that whenever the Door of Liberty is open'd to them, by a Power able to keep it open, there are such advantageous teaching Articles in it, that there's no doubt they will be instructed, by their own Benefit to lay hold upon it, and to defend it too, if there be occasion; and if they will not, their Posterity will.

Nor can the Charge be universal; Witness the Blood of the many thousand French Protestants, who in the English, Dutch and Prussian Armies, not to mention the *Vauds* and the brave *Camisars*, have dy'd in the Attempt of pulling down their persecuting Monarch; and Witness still my Lord *Galway*, Marquis de *Mirmont*, and all the Men of Quality and War, who are now in Arms against him.

I cannot but own the restoring the Protestant Churches of France to be one of the most glorious Issues of this War, most Glorious to the English Nation, most Glorious to an English Queen; then Her Majesty's Title should be alter'd from Defender of the Faith, to Defender of the Protestant Faith, Protector of the Protestant Religion, and the Restorer of oppress'd Nations — I cannot but think this such a Juncture for that Event, as never yet was put into the Hands of any Protestant Power in the World; and therefore I am not of the Opinion, that the Expectation some People have, that on the land-



binding our Forces in *France*, they shall be byn'd by Numbers of the oppress'd Protestants there, is ill grounded. I can by no means believe, The *French* so enur'd to Chains, that they will not cast away the Clog, when the Collar is unlock'd; that they will not come out of Jail, when the Door is open'd.

Besides, when God in his Providence directs the Work, he will not fail to spirit the Instruments; Prospect of Liberty will bring Love of Liberty along with it; when the thing is in veiw, no body can help wishing it, and bring them but once to desire it in their Hearts, there will want nothing but Opportunity to prompt their Hands——

Whenever therefore Arms are put into the Protestant Hands, and a sufficient Strength to support them appears in the Field; there's no doubt, but they'll do their Part to recover their Liberty, and remove the Scandal too justly thrown upon them, of being naturaliz'd to Bondage, and unqualify'd for Deliverance.

I shall enter no farther on the blessed Consequences of Peace obtain'd by Victory; without doubt they must excel Peace obtain'd by Treaty: But I leave it, 'tis too publick to be disputed, the Advantages are so obviou, it would be losing Time to talk of it, you may make your own Conditions, and fix Liberty on a lasting Foundation.

I must confess, there is one thing in great Danger by this War, and I condole with the Gentlemen mightily on that Account; and that is the total Overthrow of the rising Doctrine of *jure Divino*, and by Consequence of its Confederates, the Common-Wealth of Passive Obedience, and the Empire of Non-Resistance.

The Conquests of this Confederacy in *Europe* over *France* will be most fatal to these things, and alas for them, *their Church* is in great Danger——What Terms can be made for them, how they can be included in the Peace, that shall be made, I know not; the *Hungarians* won't side with

them, the *French* Protestants cannot league with them, *England* has disown'd them, the King of *Sweden* cannot own them; nay, the very Pope himself has set the whole Catholick Church against them, *Spain* and *Portugal* have set their Foot upon the Neck of their Doctrine; I know no Shelter for them, but under the Ensigns of the Half-Moon, and I doubt, they will be forced to take Shelter under the Wings of *Mahomet*——I wish them a good Voyage, and in the Days of their Exile would advise them to consider, whether their Doctrine be not really in its Constitution, so contrary to the Christian Religion, that 'tis impossible they should both thrive in the same Climate.

When this unhappy Separation is made, we must have Glorious Times, and so I come to my Text——If you do not hinder it your selves, Gentlemen, we must have good Times; and of this I shall talk farther, as Occasion presents.

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